CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A hose storage system, comprising:

a generally cylindrical housing adapted to be mounted below the ground having tapering side walls such that the housing has an increasing internal diameter from top to bottom thereof;

an open top adapted to be covered by a correspondingly sized cover;

an open bottom to allow draining therefrom;

the housing having an interior cavity sized and shaped to receive a garden hose spooled about a horizontal axis during storage;

a secondary cavity associated with the housing and open to the interior of the housing in which is adapted to be situated a water supply to which a proximal end of the hose may be connected.

2. The hose storage system of Claim 1, wherein the housing and secondary cavity are integrally formed together.

3. The hose storage system of Claim 1, where the housing is tapered in a discontinuous manner in the form of a series of concentric rings and toroid sections.

4. A hose storage system, comprising:

a housing having an open top and an open bottom adapted to be placed within the ground with the top being substantially coplanar with the ground surface;

the housing defying a hollow interior;

a secondary housing integrally connected to the housing, said secondary

housing defining a secondary cavity which is open to the interior of the housing;

means for supplying water terminating within the secondary housing and adapted to receive a proximal end of a garden hose;

the interior of the housing being sized and shaped to receive a garden hose in spooled orientation about a vertical axis.

5. The system of Claim 4, wherein the housing is generally cylindrically shaped and oriented about the vertical axis.

6. The system of Claim 5, wherein a diameter of a top of the housing is less than a diameter of the bottom of the housing.

7. The system of Claim 4, further comprising a lid sized and shaped to fit over and substantially cover the open top of the housing and be substantially coplanar with the surrounding ground.

8. A method of storing and retrieving a flexible hose utilizing a hose storage device of the type which comprises a housing having an open top and an open bottom adapted to be placed underground with the top being substantially co-planar with a ground surface; the housing defining a hollow interior; a secondary housing integrally connected to the housing, said secondary housing defining a secondary cavity which is open to the interior of the housing; means for supplying water terminating within the secondary cavity and adapted to receive a proximal end of a garden hose; the interior of the housing being sized and shaped to receive a garden hose in spooled orientation about a vertical axis, the method comprising the steps of:

placing the housing within a correspondingly shaped hole in the ground;

orienting the open top of the housing to be substantially parallel to and co-extensive with the surface of the ground;

providing a water supply into the secondary cavity and terminating in a connection to which a proximal end of a hose to be stored within the housing may be connected;

connecting a proximal end of a hose to the water supply connection;

placing the hose into the housing within the ground in a spooled orientation about a vertical axis; and

placing the cover over the open top of the housing.

9. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step of creating a french drain at a bottom of the hole in the ground adapted to be generally in registry with the open bottom of the housing when the housing is placed within the hole.